



KORAKONUI SCHOOL

Kōrakonui School

Community Newsletter

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Welcome to our Kōrakonui Community Newsletter for Term 3, 2025

Fun times for our students participating in our annual events



Whakamarama Marae Visit



School Cross Country



Champions



Daffodil Day



King Country Rippa Rugby Tournament ~ Te Kuiti



Garden To Table



Inter School Cross Country



Sailability



Sports Camp



Sports Camp ~ Totara Springs



Sports Camp

19 September 2025

Dear Kōrakonui Community

This term began with sunshine and a special whakatau to welcome new students and their families. These occasions are always a highlight, marking the beginning of new journeys within our kura/school and setting the tone for a positive term ahead.



Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC) this term! Our Year 5 and 6 students travelled to Auckland where they explored the science of flight at MOTAT, followed by an unforgettable overnight stay at Kelly Tarlton's Aquarium, where they slept beneath the glow of the tanks and marine life. It was a magical learning experience that blended science, adventure, and memory-making. Thank you to Miss Powell, Mrs Gera, and the parents that supported the event to make it happen!

Our relationship with Whakamarama Marae has also continued to grow and flourish. Following the meaningful visit by our senior students last term, this term it was the turn of our junior students, supported by Bayley Class, to enjoy the same experience. These visits provide a wonderful way for our tamariki/children to deepen their understanding of pōwhiri while building cultural connections that will last well beyond the classroom. Looking forward, we are aiming to have a Kapa Haka performance at the marae in Term 4.

A group of our students enjoyed a Sailability Day at Lake Ngāroto, where they had the chance to learn the basics of yachting. The day was as much about teamwork and problem-solving as it was about sailing, and our tamariki/children embraced the challenge with enthusiasm.

Sport in Term 3! Our annual cross country, hosted on the Ralph family farm, challenged students to push themselves while supporting one another to the finish line. Congratulations to Hunter McGillivray and Jean Palaganas, who won our senior boy and senior girl cross-country trophies. Those who qualified went on to represent our kura at the Lower Waipā Cross Country, where we were proud to celebrate a number of top 10 finishers. A special mention goes to Louis Dorssers, who placed first in the 12-year-old boys' event.



Last week, our Year 7 and 8 Bayley Class joined forces with Kio Kio School to attend the five-day Sports Camp at Tōtara Springs. Students competed in more than 30 activities ranging from highly competitive sports to new challenges designed to test teamwork and resilience. The week was capped off with a special highlight – winning the prized Cheer Trophy, awarded for a five-minute choreographed dance routine. A huge thank you goes to Mel from Ōtorohanga Dance Company for her creativity, energy, and dedication in preparing the performance. Our gratitude also extends to Jude Stacey, Gerard Dorssers, Alana Phillips, and Emma Telfer, whose tireless efforts before and during the camp helped make the week such a success. We can all be proud of the way our Kōrakonui students represented their kura and embraced the opportunity to connect with others.

Another point of pride has been the arrival of our new school sports jackets, generously supported by the Kōrakonui Hall Committee. Thank you to the hall committee! These jackets were worn for the first time at Sports Camp and looked absolutely fantastic on our tamariki. Keep an eye out for these at our next sports event.



Community Spirit in Action. Our kura once again marked Daffodil

Day, with students dressing in yellow and green, purchasing cupcakes, and making donations in support of the Cancer Society. Together

we raised over \$200, with additional contributions made online. This generosity reflects the caring spirit of our community and the willingness to get behind causes that touch many families.

The strength of our community has also been visible in the support shown across events this term. From parents and volunteers marshalling at cross country, to providing kai/food at marae visits, to filling in where ever help was needed, these contributions have been invaluable in creating memorable experiences for our students.

Teacher Growth, Leadership, and Sustainability. Professional growth has been a strong focus in Term 3. Our staff took part in a Teacher Only Day dedicated to the revised New Zealand Maths Curriculum, ensuring that our teaching practices remain fresh, effective, and in line with new approaches.

Meanwhile, our six House Leaders took part in a leadership development day with Sport Waikato, where they learned practical ways to guide games and activities. These skills have already been put into action as they have led age-appropriate activities for each of the classes in our school. Well done to our House Leaders for the energy and leadership they've shown.

This term has also seen the **Garden to Table** programme thrive under the guidance of Ruthie Gera, who has brought passion and creativity to this project. Different classes have used produce from our school gardens, as well as contributions from local gardens, to create wonderful meals each week. To support this, we have planted three new kōwhai trees and a collection of new fruit trees, which will continue to fuel both learning and sustainability for years to come.

Board of Trustees Update. We have recently completed the Triennial Board Elections voting process and are delighted to announce our Board of Trustees. This group of committed community members will help guide the direction and success of our kura in the years ahead. The re-elected trustees are Cynthia Port and Kate MacDonald. The newly elected trustee is Simon Fookes, and our Staff Representative is Fraser Quinn. It's also important to thank Gerard Dorssers for his contribution to the school board over the past 6 years and to Lisa Leather, for her term as our Staff Representative. The full Board of Trustees is made up of Jude Stacey (Presiding Member), Stephanie Brown, Cynthia Port, Kate MacDonald, Simon Fookes. We thank all candidates who put their names forward and look forward to the contribution this Board will make.

Staffing Update. We would like to wish Heather Cork all the best as she goes on maternity leave to welcome her second child into the world, and to wish Lewis Morgan every success as he pursues his love of early childhood education. Looking ahead to Term 4, Mrs Alana Phillips will be teaching in our Mangatūtū classroom, and Ms Ana Cornish will be teaching in our Lethbridge classroom. We will announce our 2026 staffing later in the year.

Looking Ahead. As we look ahead to Term 4, we warmly welcome back Tom Cochrane into the role of Principal, as Fraser Quinn steps down from the Acting Principal position he has held throughout Term 3 whilst Mr Cochrane has been on sabbatical.

A reminder too that on Wednesday 8 October, the very first Wednesday back in Term 4, we will hold our annual Agricultural Day. This is a traditional and proud component of our school calendar, and we warmly invite everyone in the community to come along and show their support.

As always, we would like to thank those in our community that give that little bit more, make time when it's hard to find it, and share their skills and expertise with our kura. These people help make the rich opportunities available at Kōrakonui more accessible to all our tamariki/children and we appreciate you all immensely.

With warm regards,
Fraser Quinn
Acting Principal Term 3

**KŌRAKONUI
SCHOOL**
He Mātauranga Mo Te Ora
Learning For Life



Kōrakonui School Agricultural Day

Wednesday 8 October ~ Judging starts 10am sharp

Entry forms for calf, lamb or goats are in!

Our Agricultural Day is one of the highlights of the school year, with around 80 entries and strong support from our community. Families and friends are warmly invited to come along, cheer on the children, and enjoy a burger, sausage, coffee, or some delicious baking from our Wharepūhanga Playcentre mums.

Fiber Fresh Sponsorship - This year, we are very fortunate to have Alice Best, Territory Manager for Fiber Fresh, generously sponsor a free bag of Fiber Gain for every student rearing a calf for our Agricultural Day. Thank you, Fiber Fresh, for your wonderful support!



Contact Alice 027 3711773



Group Day at Waipa Equestrian Park, Kihikihi

There has been a change to the way Group Day is organised moving forward. This year, the Te Awamutu Boys & Girls Agricultural Club (our group), Mt Pirongia and Eastern Zone have amalgamated. This exciting development will bring 12 schools together at Group Day, increasing competition numbers from around 80 entries to more than 150 animals. What a fantastic showcase this will be!

The schools involved are: **Kōrakonui, Pokuru, Te Awamutu Intermediate, Te Awamutu Primary, St Patrick's, Pirongia, Paterangi, Nugtunui, Puahue, Pukeatua, Arohena and Wharepapa South.**



Sponsors of our Agricultural Day
Champion ribbons for overall points winners of the calf, lamb and goat sections for 2025

Korakonui Kickstart



Our Before School Programme

The Kōrakonui Kickstart programme will occur for the 4 weeks leading up to each child's 5th birthday, or entry to school. These sessions run on Friday mornings from 9am-10am and are based within Te Kawa class. This programme is designed to help the children prepare for school, to allow them to build relationships with the teaching staff, and their fellow students, as well as their older peers within Mangatutu class.

If you are interested in your child taking part in this programme, please contact the school office or our Principal, who will be able to give additional information.

**NB: Kōrakonui School does not have cohort entry
Learners can start from 5 years old.**



Korakonui School

Dates for your calendar

Monday 6 October - First Day of Term 4

Wednesday 8 October - Kōrakonui Agricultural Day

Wednesday 15 October - Group Day, Kihikihi Equestrian Park

Friday 17 October - Assembly 2pm MPR - All welcome

Monday 27 October - Labour Day Public Holiday

Friday 31 October - Waikato Show, Claudelands, Hamilton

Monday 3-7 November - Annual Book Fair

Monday 10-14 November - Bayley Camp Wellington

Thursday 20-21 November - Lethbridge Camp, Pirongia

Term Dates 2025

Term 1 - Monday 3 February - Friday 11 April (11 weeks)

Term 2 - Monday 28 April - Friday 27 June (9 weeks)

Term 3 - Monday 14 July - Friday 19 September (10 weeks)

Term 4 - Monday 6 October - Friday 12 December (10 weeks)

Kōrakonui School Stock Scheme



We would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who's contributed to our stock scheme. To our donors, graziers, co-ordinators, your support makes a significant difference for the opportunities our students can reach. This money allows us to provide the best possible education for the kids in our community.

Stock Scheme 2025/26 - Thank you in advance, to those who have reserved and are rearing a beef calf donation at present. One of our team will be contacting you over the next few weeks, to confirm and then plan a pick up for early November. If you are new to our area and would like to donate to our school stock scheme or could offer grazing, please contact James or Simon.

How does it work? We ask of our farming families, for a kind donation of a weaned beef calf or grazing for these animals. Alternatively, proceeds from bobby calves or culled animals are welcomed. Donated calves are collected by the Stock Scheme Committee volunteers in November and relocated to grazing, through to maturity. If you are able to be a part of our successful stock scheme programme, please contact our stock scheme co-ordinators.

James Kay 027 4608891 or Simon Fookes 027 3207234

Email: stockscheme@korakonui.school.nz ~ Thank you for supporting Kōrakonui School

Kōrakonui Community Directory



RIDGELINEHOMES
New Residential Specialists

Matt Fookes 027 313 1317
Paul Diack 027 448 4734
info@ridgelinehomes.co.nz

New Home Builds • Renovations • Commercial



Troy Sircombe
Qualified Arborist
027 666 9461
tsircombe@gmail.com

Tree removal & stump grinding
Tree pruning, lifting & shaping
Firewood ringing & splitting

Chipping
Hedging & planting

30th Te Awamutu Altrusa Home and Garden Ramble

Sunday 2nd November 2025
9.30 am ~ 4.00 pm
Tickets \$30, available from 1 October



TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM

www.altrusateawamutu.co.nz Or Phone (07) 871 9819 or (021) 139 0377

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WHAREPUHUNGA Playcentre

SESSION DAYS

Tuesday & Friday mornings - Birth to 6 years old
and
Monday mornings - 4 to 6 years old



743 Wharepuhunga Road
opposite Korakonui School

Call in or phone
07 872 2540

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